

MEMORANDUM

TO: Vermont Children's Performance Indicator Project Advisory Group

FROM: John Pandiani
Andrew Zovistoski
Brad James

DATE: August 14, 1997

RE: Children and Adolescents Receiving Only One Service Event

The attached table presents the number of children and adolescents who received only one service event in a year (1995 or 1996). This measure is related to the MHSIP Report Card concern that, "enrollees have access to a primary mental health provider who meets their needs in terms of ethnicity, language, culture, gender, age and disability." This is an indirect measure of a potential problem in this area. The assumption is that people who find services to be incompatible with their ethnicity, language, culture, gender, age or disability needs will be less likely to come back. This measure may also be viewed as a reflection of consumer dissatisfaction with the provided services.

We look forward to your comments on the quality of the data, the appropriateness of the analysis, and the effectiveness of the presentation of these data, as well as your interpretation of the results.

Access to Mental Health Services Children and Adolescents Receiving Only One Community Mental Health Outpatient Service

Question: Does the proportion of children and adolescents who received only one service event during a year vary among community mental health providers? (This question is MHSIP Report Card Access Indicator #10.)

Data: Information on the number of children and adolescents less than 22 years of age receiving only one service from Children's Mental Health Outpatient programs in Vermont was obtained from Quarterly Service Reports (QSR) for FY1995 and FY1996. QSR's were submitted to the Department of Developmental and Mental Health Services (DDMHS) by community providers.

Analysis: Children and adolescents served in community mental health children's outpatient programs were identified as receiving only one or more than one outpatient service during each fiscal year. An outpatient service excludes residential, respite, and transportation services. Children and adolescents receiving only school-based services are also excluded from the analysis. The proportion of individuals who received only one service was calculated for each clinic for each of the three fiscal years.

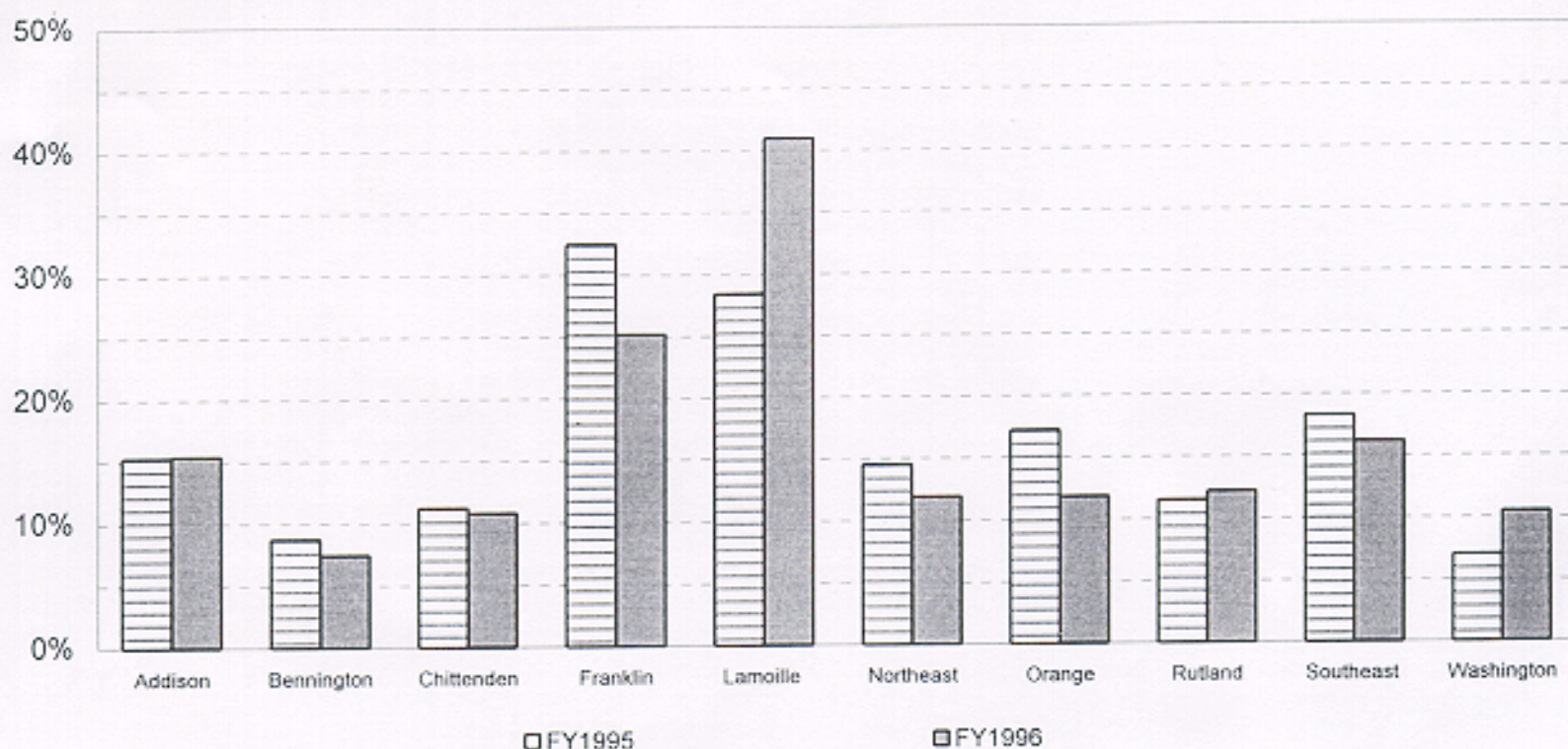
Results: There was substantial variation among Vermont's ten community mental health service areas in the number of children and adolescents receiving one outpatient service in a given year. The Lamoille and Franklin service areas had the highest overall proportions of children and adolescents receiving one outpatient service for the combined two year period (35% and 29%, respectively). The Bennington and Washington service areas had the lowest overall proportions of individuals reviewing one outpatient service for the combined two year period (8% and 9%, respectively).

Statewide, there was very little variation between the two years – 16% of children and adolescents served in FY1995 received one outpatient service while 15% received one service in FY1996.

Next Questions: Do these rates vary among age, gender, ethnicity, and language groups? Do these data reflect consumer dissatisfaction with an initial service?

CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS RECEIVING ONE CMHC OUTPATIENT SERVICE, 1995-1996

Children and Adolescents Receiving One CMHC Outpatient Service



Region/Provider	Regional Population Under 22	FY1995				FY1996		
		Total Receiving Services	Children Receiving One CMHC Outpatient Service		Total Receiving Services	Children Receiving One CMHC Outpatient Service		
			Total	Percent		Total	Percent	
Addison - CSAC	11,078	894	137	15%	924	143	15%	
Bennington - UCS	10,734	274	24	9%	401	30	7%	
Chittenden - HCHS	43,730	480	54	11%	471	51	11%	
Franklin - FGI	16,016	394	128	32%	456	115	25%	
Lamoille - LCMHS	6,588	204	58	28%	261	107	41%	
Northeast - NEK	18,906	626	91	15%	596	71	12%	
Orange - CMC	8,598	371	64	17%	481	57	12%	
Rutland - RACS	17,877	651	75	12%	614	75	12%	
Southeast - HCRSSV	27,572	758	139	18%	833	135	16%	
Washington - WCMHS	16,429	440	31	7%	419	44	11%	
Vermont	177,528	5,092	801	16%	5,456	828	15%	

Figures for individuals receiving services are based on quarterly service reports submitted by Vermont's Community Mental Health Providers for FY1995 and 1996. 'Children's Population' includes people less than 22 years of age. Population figures are projections for 1995 based on the latest estimates published by the Vermont Department of Health and the Center for Rural Studies at the University of Vermont. The category, one CMHC outpatient service event, is exclusive of residential, respite, or transportation services and is also exclusive of school-based mental health services.